GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4262
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2005
COMPENSATION TO GULF WAR VICTIMS
Gehlot Shri Thaawar Chand

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian citizens who were working in Kuwait during the period of the Gulf War have received any compensation from the United Nations;

(b) if so, their number and the amount received by them so far ; (

(c) the amount of compensation claimed and sanctioned per person and the details of those who have received inadequate amount in this regard;

(d) the number of such cases of compensation still pending and the reasons therefor;

(e) the action taken by the Government for speedy and full disbursement of claimed amount to the Indian citizens;

(f) whether the Government proposes to take steps to ensure adequate compensation to them; and

(g) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Separate statement attached.

(c) As per United Nations Compensation Commission guidelines, the United Nations Compensation Commission list of individual approved claims is confidential and can only be revealed to the concerned individual.

It is the exclusive responsibility of United Nations Compensation Commission to scrutinize, evaluate the compensation application and decide on the quantum of payment or entirely reject a claim.

(d) United Nations Compensation Commission has sent us a list of 8,615 claimants whose claim amounts approved were returned to United Nations Compensation Commission because they could not be located within the period allowed by United Nations Compensation Commission for disbursement of a particular lot.

(e) The Special Kuwait Cell, Ministry of External Affairs has given this list to the four nationalized banks designated for the task of disbursement of Gulf War compensation. This list has also been sent to the Indian Missions in the Gulf countries, as well as to various State Governments. All concerned have been asked to give maximum publicity to this list of untraced claimants in the areas of their respective jurisdiction and such claimants have been asked to get in touch with Special Kuwait Cell, Ministry of External Affairs with their latest address.

(f)&(g) A Secretary-level delegation had gone to Geneva in May,2005 to discuss this issue with the United Nations Compensation Commission. However, the United Nations Compensation Commission`s position is that they are not entertaining any fresh applications.

Statement referred to in part (b) of the Answer to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.4262

(As on 16/8/05)

	Total number of claims registered with Special Kuwait Cell, Ministry of External Affairs	Total amount claimed (in US $)
Category A	110,511	$ 424,437,500/-

Category B	386	$ 867,500/-	
Category C	39,955		$ 771,964,457/-
Category D	999	$ 315,125,486/-	
Total	1,51,851		$ 1,512,394,943/-

Total number of approved claimants category-wise :

Category A -104,980
Category B -183
Category C -40,486
Category D -841
Total -146,490

Total amount paid to the claimants - US $ 917,575,243.36
(for all Categories)

Total amount received from United - US $ 948,151,360.53
Nations Compensation Commission
(for all Categories)

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